

January - February
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Issue 1



PKT ENTERPRISES

THE PKT PRESS

Investing in the Lives of People

PKT's Mission:

Working together with integrity to provide quality care, support, and life enriching opportunities to persons with disabilities, in an environment fostering growth and independence, while upholding and maintaining a viable, ethical, and moral business, treating everyone with respect, compassion, and dignity.

FEATURED HOME

The **White House** has been pretty busy lately! Christmas brought a lot of joy and good moods! One of the biggest gifts Santa brought the White House was in the form of a new van, or a "limo" as one of the ladies likes to refer to it as. PKT had purchased a wheelchair accessible van several years ago that had been working wonderfully; unfortunately it was involved in an accident a few months back (luckily no one was seriously injured). The White House ladies have been anxiously awaiting the new van and it finally arrived just hours before leaving for the PKT Christmas Party. The van has really been an equalizer for them. They no longer need to worry about transferring in and out of wheelchairs or where to store their walkers. They are able to get around town in style and comfortably, but most importantly safely!

PKT has also warmly welcomed our newest Coordinator **Laura Rybicki** at the White House. The ladies there are pretty excited about her as she is great! More big changes are happening as **Jackie W.** has recently left the White House to move into the **Brighton House**. Jackie is looking forward to continuing to work on her independence and getting out in the community with a new set of ladies. Also, after a long hiatus from PKT, we are very excited to be welcoming back **Gordy H.** to his new home at the White House! As some of you may have read in past articles, Gordy had lived at the **Pink House** for over 16 years. It was decided that the house was no longer the best fit for Gordy and we are excited to welcome him back.

Angie L. has been busy calling and informing everyone of everything that's up in the news; the latest Vikings win brought screams of joy! Angie is quite the social butterfly and she has been busy getting out around town. Some of her favorite activities are going to the mall and shopping. Angie spends a lot of time playing with the resident cat Swazey. She often calls the supervisors of the house when she is out and about at pet stores begging to bring him home a playmate. She's been found more than once saying "we can hide it from Steve". ☺

Dorie S. has been busy working at Merrick, Inc. and has been a stronghold for them for a year now. She enjoys training in new employees and they have recently started her on some other jobs. Every day Dorie shares how much work she did and says that she loves the variety and likes to go to different stations. At home she keeps busy baking and works diligently on her iPad while communicating with her family. She loves to come home and sit at the table with a beverage and play games on her iPad while she decompresses from the day. Dorie also like to go to church on Sundays and has been making the rounds to several churches searching for the one that feels like home.

The White House has been a busy but happy place the last few months, The ladies know how to keep everyone on their toes and are all excited to see what Gordy has to offer to the mix. Laura and all of the staff have been thrilled to see Gordy settled in so nicely as he is very happy to be back. ✍

Jenny Clement, Brighton House Coordinator
and Matt Wahl, SLS Director



MATT'S MEMO



As we pack up the decorations and look back at the year that was 2012, it is fun to reflect on all of the changes and progress we have made. For PKT, it seems to have been the year of the move! We've added new clients to the PKT family and did a lot of internal moves, always striving to find the best fit for each individual we serve.

Another thing that really resonated with me this holiday season and over the last few weeks, has been the idea of family. When you step back and look at PKT as a whole, you realize how many different family systems are at work while seeing that each one of the houses forms a unique and tight family bond. I'm not saying that everyone gets along all the time, but in reality what family does? Then you take another step back and you see that the staff at each respective house tends to form a special bond with one another and with the House Coordinators. Then another step back further and you see that the group of House Coordinators and Directors have formed their own family.

It's so refreshing to see so many group systems at work. When you really take a moment to think about what family is, it's who you care about and who you spend your time with. The reality is many of our clients, staff and supervisors spend so much time with one another that it's inevitable that there will be some deeper relationships built.

The year 2012 has brought a lot of changes to PKT and to these family systems, but through it all bonds continue to be strong and relationships continue to flourish. These efforts provide our clients, our family, with the utmost dignity and respect while fostering a spirit of normalcy and independence.

I would also like to take a moment to really thank the House Coordinator crew for all they do here at PKT. Many times the first and last phone call of the day from staff, clients or team members is to the House Coordinator. They often times sacrifice personal plans and lives to make sure that the client's needs are being met. Each one of them truly cares for the clients as if they are their own family. PKT is blessed to have such high quality people! ✍️

Matt Wahl, SLS Director

Wishing everyone a safe and happy 2013!!



STEVE'S SCOOP



BRRRRRRRRRR! It's been quite cold...but that is Minnesota right? Gotta love it!

What a great holiday season we had here! As you can see from the pictures, our client Christmas party was awesome! I was told that it was going to be a more formal affair, as mentioned in the last newsletter, and given that I can't be Santa anymore and **Matt W.** refused...I had my work cut out! BUT, luckily, **Jason W.** asked to be Santa AND **Tom C.** wanted to be Summer Santa, so all I needed now was formal attire for myself. Good ol' Matt W., he suggested a red tuxedo! So, I could not resist...costume shopping I went and, well, the pics show what I found.

The entire evening was awesome! Thank you **Jennifer J., Matt W., Tennille C., Sharilyn K., Pat M.**, and all the Coordinators for putting together a great evening!

I would like to echo here, what Matt said in his article in two spots...1st the family. It is truly AMAZING that somehow through the years and growth of PKT, it does still feel like family. Clients all know each other, staff from other houses and the In-Home Department know each other, office staff know all the clients, etc. I think it is important for an organization like PKT to maintain that family like feel, and despite growth and employee change and turnover, PKT has been able to hang on and maintain a sense of family. THANK you to everyone here who has helped keep that spirit alive! 2nd, the House Coordinators. Thank you ALL for staying strong and sticking with it. Thanks most of all for caring so deeply for the clients! I know they all adore you as I see it in their eyes, hear it in their voices, and read it in their emails and texts! THANKS for giving so much!

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable 2012 Holiday Season and wish folks a wonderful 2013! Stay healthy and don't forget to get your flu shot ☺! It's not too late!✍

SHARILYN'S ...



With Christmas behind us and the new year beginning, many people make New Year's resolutions. Whether they are fitness, family, financial, or work goals, most hope to improve on something from the previous year. One of the things I have tried to improve on at PKT over the past year is finding the best deals for our office supply needs. Believe it or not, PKT does not have an infinite amount of paper, pens, or binders. These supplies plus much more have to be purchased on a regular basis. Sadly, over the past few years I have watched the price—most notably—of paper rise dramatically. However, I have seen PKT combat this, plus be more eco-friendly, by moving more towards email and scanning documents for e-filing and sharing. Likewise, we do our best to shred and recycle the paper that we do not need any more.

I also encourage everyone around the office to reuse supplies if possible. The supplies that I do purchase for PKT, I have found quite often on sale or I have used the monthly coupons from the various office supply stores to receive a discount. Likewise, I have found that sometimes buying in bulk will save money. And to my surprise, I have even found that non-office supplies stores sometimes carry the same supplies but for cheaper. Keeping track of item pricing at the different stores has been quite the eye opener.

Therefore, let me suggest a goal for yourself this next year to be to purchase the products you use on a regular basis with smartness. Price compare, use coupons, watch for sales, and buy in bulk when cheaper. I think you will be surprised by the things you learn about where you shop.✍

Sharilyn Korte, Director of Financial Services

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH for December 2012

Jessica Greenhow

Jessica went above and beyond during a client emergency on November 11, 2012. During an overnight shift, Jessica was involved in literally saving the life of a client who had stopped breathing. She was quick to assess the situation, immediately used her professional skills and performed CPR while directing another staff to call 911. Client was then transported safely to the emergency room. Jessica remained calm throughout this very difficult time. Her quick thinking and actions helped to save a life.

To appreciate someone involved in saving a life is difficult to put into words, however the entire team wishes to thank Jessica very much for going above and beyond and recognize her accomplishment with this Employee of the Month award.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH for January 2013

Linda Fox

Linda was selected for Employee of the Month for her great contributions in serving the client's needs during the holidays.

First, she prepared a wonderful Christmas dinner for all the clients of PKT, as well as helped make people feel great for Christmas Day. She came up with the idea of making Christmas cookies as presents.

Linda also took a client to the emergency room and sat with them while they had x-rays and other medical needs checked out.

Lastly, Linda dealt with a difficult family situation and helped calm everyone down.



Thank you Jessica and Linda !!

SPOTLIGHT ON



Hello world! I am **Myiessha V.** I live at the **Brick House** and I will be the first one to greet you at the door to my house with a big smile and a "What is your name?" I love to be busy. At home I complete math problems in my books, I color lots of pictures, and I love completing jigsaw puzzles. I also love to play UNO and Rummy 500. I like staff to paint my nails, put on my makeup, fix my hair pretty and to help me pick out just the right earrings for the outfit that I am wearing that day. I am the diva of the house and I love to dance and sing around the house. I love dancing to my Sweating to the Oldies video. I enjoy walking to Super America at night to get a small coffee and a healthy snack. If you want to go out shopping, to a restaurant, or to a party; I will come with you!

I work at MTS Hillcrest. At MTS I go on several outings in the community and I work on leisure activities on the job. I love to do the in-house work because then I earn money so that I can go buy things. I do jobs like vacuuming and taking out the garbage. At work I get to drink a bottle of Crystal Light, which is good. I also earn Taco Bell from work.

So that is it about me. I love my house, I like my roommates and staff. Oh and did you know my birthday is coming soon?

Myiessha V.'s words typed by
Jennifer Johnson, SLS Director



WELCOME ... PKT would like to extend a warm welcome to ...

Hello, My name is **Laura Rybicki** and I am the new House Coordinator at the **White House**. I have been working in this field for the past 20 years and am looking forward to working with the residents and their teams.

I studied psychology at St. Cloud State University and began working at Alternatives for People with Autism in 1991. Since that time I have worked in both residential and vocational settings gaining a wide variety of knowledge and experience working with a variety of individuals. I look forward to now having the opportunity to work for PKT and more specifically at the White House.

I look forward to getting to know the clients, the staff, and the team members of the White House. PKT has made me feel extremely welcomed and I am very excited about this opportunity. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you might have. My work number is 612/788-3998 ext. 159.

Laura Rybicki, White House Coordinator

Welcome Laura!

2012 CHRISTMAS



PARTY FUN



IN-HOME CONNECTION

With a twinkle in his eye, and a good firm handshake, he'll make you feel like a life-long friend when he greets you. With the near-strength and accuracy of an NFL quarterback he'll pass the football in a "friendly" game of catch. With the agility of a cougar he'll hike the trails at Afton. What's that; who is this person? Well, it's **Tom C.**

Tom is a very active young man who loves the outdoors. As mentioned, he's quite the hiker and loves nature walks. From the trails of Afton to the shores of Lake Calhoun to the river walk in Hudson, WI, Tom stays active outdoors when the weather allows for it. In the wintertime Tom maintains his exercise regime by going walking at Mall of America and also riding his exercise bike. He's even taken a trip to Grand Marais to go cross country skiing. Sources report that he does a mighty fine job out on the trails. He is very conscientious about staying in shape.

Another of Tom's indoor favorites is bowling. On the days Tom is feeling more like taking it easy, he'll go to the MIA (Minneapolis Institute of Arts) where he enjoys checking out the exhibits and at times catches the performance of a local band. He really enjoys live music.

Tom loves music in general. In the car he's always singing along to whatever's playing on the radio. When the opportunity arises Tom really likes to dance to the music; he can really whoop it up! It's no wonder that "Grease" the movie and soundtrack is one of his all-time favorites. Tom also likes to go see movies, especially at the Imax Theatre. Tom recently saw the movie "Tornado Alley" which he thought was awesome.

Being a very active person and enjoying being where the action is, plus the fact that he is very polite to strangers, makes working as a carry-out at Coopers Grocery Store the perfect job for Tom. He has been sacking groceries for several years. He likes his job, and especially appreciates the excellent tips he gets.

After work, be it winter or summer, Tom likes to head down to Mississippi Market after work and grab up one of his favorite drinks - tea. Sugar-Free Honest Green Tea and Kombucha Tea are a couple of his favorites. Sometimes Tom will opt for an iced decaffé Americano on an especially hot summer day.

Tom is no stranger to the staff at one of his favorite restaurants in St. Paul - Saigon's. When he walks in they know exactly what he wants - a grilled pork salad. How could they not know; he's been ordering that every week for almost the past twelve years! Tom also likes to eat at Poor Dick's in Hudson, WI.

Tom does enjoy the river; especially when he gets to ride on it. He has gone boating a few times on a 28-foot cabin cruiser on both the Hudson River and the Mississippi. Tom has lived with his foster family for almost 20 years. He is very happy there, and likes going out every week with his dad, who takes him out to eat.

Tom is quite the young man. From work to play, both night and day, he is always busy enjoying life. So if you're ever at Coopers, be on the watch for our good friend Tom; he'll be the one with a twinkle in his eye and quite possibly a green tea in his hand! ✍️

Christopher Bastyr, In-Home Services Coordinator

OPENINGS UPDATE

PKT always has openings for new clients for the In-Home department. Anyone interested in more information, please contact Tennille Carlson at 612-788-3998 x 114 or Steve Tschacher at 612-788-3998 x 105.

We are now accepting both DD and CADI Waiver clients.

CALENDAR/UPCOMING EVENTS

January Staff Meetings

IHS:	January 2 nd	9:30a-11:30a
Brick:	January 25 th	12:00p-2:00p
Pink:	January 23 rd	12:00p-2:00p
Brown:	January 11 th	12:00p-2:00p
Columbia:	January 22 nd	12:30p-2:30p
Green:	January 14 th	4:30p-6:30p
Brighton:	January 15 th	1:00p-3:00p
Dark:	January 24 th	3:00p-5:00p
Yellow:	January 8 th	12:30p-2:30p
White:	January 23 rd	8:30a-10:30a

JANUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February Staff Meetings

IHS:	February 6 th	9:30a-11:30a
Brick:	February 22 nd	12:00p-2:00p
Pink:	February 13 th	12:00p-2:00p
Brown:	February 8 th	12:00p-2:00p
Columbia:	February 26 th	12:30p-2:30p
Green:	February 11 th	4:30p-6:30p
Brighton:	February 12 th	1:00p-3:00p
Dark:	February 18 th	5:00p-7:00p
Yellow:	February 12 th	12:30p-2:30p
White:	February 13 th	8:30a-10:30a

FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

Fun Upcoming Activities

January

- 19-27 - Bloomington Parks & Recreation 11th Annual Winter Fete. One cooooool week in January! 952-563-8877. All activities are free.
- 24-2/3- Saint Paul Winter Carnival, Saint Paul. The event includes a parade led by the mythical King Boreas and continues with ice and snow sculpting competitions and a half marathon race. 651-223-4700 Landmark Center, 75 West 5th Street, St. Paul.
- 29 - Pond Dakota Mission Park Winter History Festival, \$3. 401 E. 104th St., Bloomington. Horse drawn wagon and dogsled rides. Relive early settlers and Native American activities.

February

- 11-12 - Big Island Rendezvous and Festival, Albert Lea. Join the fun at the Big Island Rendezvous w/ Albert Lea Chamber of Commerce 13th Annual Gourmet Food Auction. 800-658-2526 Wedgewood Cove
- 16 - Polar Bear Plunge, 14349 Crest Ave., Prior Lake
- Sat. - Mall of America Free Family Flicks 10:00am. 2/2 Happy Feet Two, 2/9 Journey to the Center of the Earth, 2/16 The Zookeeper, 2/23 Madagascar 3
- Sun. - Bell Museum of Natural History. Free admission for all visitors on Sundays.

UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION ...**www.pktenterprises.com**

Steve Tschacher	612-788-3998 ext 105	stevent@pktenterprises.com	President
Pat Matt	612-788-3998 ext 1007	patm@pktenterprises.com	Human Resources Director
Sharilyn Korte	612-788-3998 ext 106	sharilynk@pktenterprises.com	Director of Financial Services
Jennifer Johnson	612-788-3998 ext 115	jmi@pktenterprises.com	SLS Director
Matt Wahl	612-788-3998 ext 109	mattw@pktenterprises.com	SLS Director
Tennille Carlson	612-788-3998 ext 114	tennillec@pktenterprises.com	Director of IHS, Licensing Compliance and Client Relations
Chris Bastyr	612-788-3998 ext 16473	chrisb@pktenterprises.com	IHS Coordinator
Tim Sullivan	612-788-3998 ext 152	tims@pktenterprises.com	Pink House Coordinator
Duane Sundblad	612-788-3998 ext 153	brownhousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	Brown House Coordinator
Rayneshia Nunn	612-788-3998 ext 154	rayneshian@pktenterprises.com	Columbia House Coordinator
Katie Fordyce	612-788-3998 ext 155	katief@pktenterprises.com	Green House Coordinator
Jenny Clement	612-788-3998 ext 156	jennyc@pktenterprises.com	Brighton House Coordinator
Anna Seiger	612-788-3998 ext 158	yellowhousecoordinator@pktenterprises.com	Yellow House Coordinator
Laura Rybicki	612-788-3998 ext 159	laurar@pktenterprises.com	White House Coordinator

Brick House	651-646-5221
Pink House	651-696-1909
Brown House	651-730-4773
Columbia House	763-789-7188
Green House	651-748-0580
Brighton House	651-636-8558
Dark House	651-766-6992
Yellow House	651-487-8770
White House	651-784-7874



Client Birthdays

Lane M.	1/1
Jackie W.	1/18
Kristi B.	1/21
Bill S.	1/24
Walter S.	1/26
Dori S.	2/7
Chris D.	2/11
Scott M.	2/16

Editor apologies to Clint V. whose 12/11 birthday was published inaccurately in our previous PKT Press edition.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Chloe Holum	1 year
Rayneshia Nunn	4 years
Bangela Smith	5 years
Jean Parker	6 years
Pam Kurtz	12 years
Channon Doerr	17 years
Deb Paine	17 years

Employee Birthdays

Tami Block	1/4
Jacob Garding	1/6
Jennifer Johnson	1/28
Amanda Ludden	2/1
Pam Kurtz	2/2
Jodi Feldbruegge	2/4
Lakeisha Ware	2/14
Matt Wahl	2/17
Greg Klinger	2/26

WELCOME

New Employees

Patricia Amunga	LSI White House
Temilola Awoleke	Float
Shakiyla Riley	LSI Brown House



PKT Enterprises
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Words to Live By ...

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
And in His word I do hope.

Psalm 130:5

*For mailing changes, please contact Pat Matt at 612-788-3998 x 1007;
email: patm@pktenterprises.com*

To view current or past newsletters, please visit www.pktenterprises.com

THE PKT PRESS

is intended to provide information to the individuals we serve, the families and individuals who are so vitally important to those we serve, as well as the many members of the PKT community about what is going on at PKT Enterprises and just exactly "who" PKT Enterprises is...